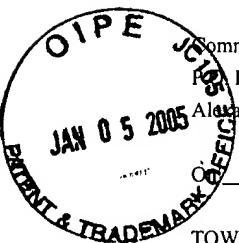


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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

12/30/04

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Tanaka et al.

Application No.: 09/754,169

Filed: January 3, 2001

For: STORAGE SYSTEM

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 2772

Examiner: Joseph D. Manoskey

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2113

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 2, 2004, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.